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THE  
**CAMBRO - BRITON.**

JANUARY, 1822.

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NULLI QUIDEM MIHI SATIS ERUDITI VIDENTUR, QUIBUS NOSTRA  
IGNOTA SUNT. CICERO *de Legibus.*

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**TRIADS OF THE ISLE OF BRITAIN.**

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It has often occurred to us, that a brief analytical digest of the historical events, recorded in the "Triads of the Isle of Britain," arranged, as far as might be, in the proper order of time, would be not only interesting but useful. Under this impression it is that we now submit a Chronological Epitome of such of these ancient records, as have already been translated in the **CAMBRO-BRITON**, and which comprise all known to be extant, with the exception merely of those that relate exclusively to Arthur and his Court. These latter may, with propriety, form a class by themselves, and will have a place hereafter in this work. In the mean time the following synopsis will serve to refresh the reader's memory with respect to the Triads already inserted,—such only, we mean, as have an obvious historical character. For, on this point, it may not be unnecessary to remark, that the "Triads of the Isle of Britain" are of a mixed complexion, having reference alike to history, mythology, and private biography. In many instances, indeed, we have found it a matter of considerable difficulty to separate the historical from the fabulous, so true is it, that the early dawn of history has, in all countries, been, more or less, obscured by the clouds of mythology. In the following digest, however, such memorials, as are obviously mythological, are omitted, together with a few others, that appear too ambiguous to be invested with the attributes of history. The same desire to secure this Epitome from the intrusion of any irrelevant matter has induced us to exclude also those Triads, that are confined merely to biographical notices, where such notices are not mixed up with the general history of the country. The Triads, thus omitted, however, whether fabulous or biographical, may

form the subject of a future analysis, although, as must be obvious, they are not generally susceptible of a chronological arrangement.

With respect to the chronology, observed in the following Epitome, it is, of necessity, in many instances, extremely doubtful, and in few, perhaps, true to the very year. In events, however, which belong, generally, to ages so remote, precision in this respect was not to be anticipated; and, accordingly, in some of the earliest memorials, which seem to ascend beyond what are usually called the historical periods, no attempt has been made to assign any dates to them. In others, not quite so remote, we have, with whatever success, endeavoured to ascertain the time, to which they relate; and, in a few of these instances, the result has been sanctioned by the historical authorities of antiquity. For the rest, we have only generally to premise, that, in proportion as we approach our own times, the dates, we think, will, as is natural, be found less liable to suspicion; yet here it may be proper to intimate, that the latest event, recorded in the Triads, is at a distance of six centuries and a half.

Ere these prefatory remarks are brought to a close, it may be proper to observe, that the more ancient of the following records appear to have relation to the CYMRY in their migratory, or nomadic, state, before their settlement in this island. Such, for example, are some of the acts ascribed to *Hu Gadarn*, who may be presumed to have been distinguished as a prince or lawgiver among the Cimbric tribes, that first colonized Europe. The earliest, therefore, of these memorials, although comprehended within the general designation of "Triads of the Isle of Britain," relate more properly, to use the language of the Triads themselves, to the "events which have befallen the race of the Cymry from the age of ages\*." From these introductory remarks we now turn to the accomplishment of our task, merely premising, in addition to what we have already explained, that we shall subjoin to each memorial a reference to the page of the CAMBRO-BRITON, wherein the Triad, comprising it, has been translated; and in many instances it will be observed, that the same event is recorded in several Triads, though under a different designation, and, occasionally, with some variety in the circumstances.

\* Arch. of Wales, vol. ii. p. 57.

CHRONOLOGICAL EPITOME OF THE HISTORICAL TRIADS.

EVENTS.

Probable Date.

THE nation of the Cymry first instructed in the arts of agriculture, while in Asia, and before their settlement in Britain, by Hu Gadarn.—vol. ii. p. 98 .....	_____
First formed by him into social tribes and communities.—Id. p. 145 .....	_____
The adaptation of song to the preservation of historical memorials introduced by Hu Gadarn.—Id. p. 390.	_____
The Isle of Britain, before it was inhabited, denominated <i>Clas Merddin</i> , (the Sea-defended Green Spot). vol. i. p. 8 .....	_____
The nation of the Cymry brought by Hu Gadarn from Asia into the Isle of Britain.—Id. pp. 45—7.—ii. p. 97. ....	_____
The Isle of Britain, after it was inhabited, denominated <i>Vel Ynys</i> , (the Honey Island).—vol. i, p. 8 ....	_____
A federal monarchy established in Britain by Prydain, the son of Aedd Mawr, who was the first ruler under this system.—Id. pp. 45, 281, 284.—ii. pp. 145—6. ....	_____
The Isle of Britain, after it had been formed into a commonwealth by Prydain, denominated <i>Ynys Prydain</i> , (the Isle of Prydain).—vol. i. p. 8. ....	_____
Poetry reduced to a system among the Cymry by Tydain, thence denominated Tydain Tad Awen, or Tydain the Father of the Muse.—vol. ii. pp. 145, 390 ..	_____
The laws, customs, and privileges of Britain first consolidated and arranged by Dyvnwal Moelmud. vol. i, pp. 45, 284—ii. pp. 145, 146. ....	B. C. 400
The jury of a country, the regal power, and the office of a judge acknowledged as the pillars of the commonwealth of the Isle of Britain.—vol. i. p. 123 .....	_____
The Isle of Britain colonized at an early period, after the settlement of the Cymry, by the Loegrians and Brython.—Id. p. 47. ....	_____
The expedition of Urb Llyuddawg, of Scandinavia, who came to Britain and levied a considerable force, with which he sailed for Greece, where he and his followers are supposed to have settled.—Id. p. 86. ....	_____
Britain invaded by the Coraniaid, or Coritani, and also by the Men of Lychlyn, or People of the North. Id. pp. 49, 50 .....	_____
The art of ship-building amongst the Cymry invent-	

EVENTS.	<i>Probable Date.</i>
ed by Corvinwr, the Bard of Ceri.—vol. ii. p. 389 . . . .	B. C. 100.
Wheat and barley introduced into Britain by Coll. Id. p. 98. . . . .	—————
Building with stone introduced by Morddal. Id. p. 389	—————
A great famine in Essyllwg (Siluria) in the time of Ceraint—vol. i. p. 361. . . . .	56.
The pestilence of Manuba, which infected Gwynedd from the carcases of the Irish, who invaded it under Ganvel Gwyddel, after their defeat by Caswallawn ab Beli.—Id. pp. 50, 125. . . . .	—————
The expedition of Caswallawn (Cassivellaunus) to Armorica, where he went to assist the natives of that country against the Romans under Cæsar.—Id. p. 87. or, according to another Triad, to obtain Flur, daugh- ter of Mygnach the Dwarf.—vol. ii. p. 435. . . . .	55.
Britain invaded by the Romans under Cæsar in con- sequence of Caswallawn's expedition.—vol. i. p. 50.—ii. pp. 435, 437. . . . .	Id.
Caswallawn elected by public suffrage Sovereign of the Isle of Britain, in order to oppose the Romans. vol. i. p. 168. . . . .	Id.
The treachery of Avarwy (Mandubratius) in the as- sistance he afforded to Cæsar, upon his invasion of Britain.—Id. pp. 171. 201.—ii. pp. 49. 434. . . . .	54.
Settlement in Britain, at various periods, of the Peo- ple of Celyddon, or Caledonia, of the Gwyddelians or first Irish Colonists who came to Alban, and of the Men of Galedin (probably Holland), who established them- selves in the Isle of Wight.—vol. i. pp. 48, 50. . . . .	—————
Caradawg ab Bran (Caractacus) elected by public suffrage Sovereign of the Isle of Britain, in order to oppose the Romans.—vol. i. pp. 168. 281. . . . .	A. D. 43.
Belyn, son of Cynvelyn, and his followers distin- guished for their courage during the wars of Cara- dawg.—vol. ii. p. 337. . . . .	—————
Caradawg betrayed to the Romans by Aregwedd Voeddawg (Cartismandua) daughter of Avarwy.—vol. i. p. 203. . . . .	52.
Bran, father of Caradawg, and his whole family sent as hostages for Caradawg to Rome, where they re- mained in captivity seven years.—Id. pp. 169. 282. ii. p. 193. . . . .	Id.
The Christian Faith first introduced into Britain by Bran, therefore called Bran the Blessed, upon his re- turn from Rome.—vol. i. pp. 169. 282. . . . .	59.

EVENTS.	<i>Probable Date.</i>
Royal power established in Britain by Bran.—vol. i. p. 284. ....	A. D. 59.
The art of making mill-wheels introduced by Coel ab Cyllin, grandson of Caradawg.—vol. ii. p. 319. ....	100.
The See of Llandav, the first in Britain, founded by Lleurwg, the son of Coel.—vol. i. p. 282.—ii. p. 194. ...	167.
That of York founded by the Emperor Constantine. vol. ii. p. 194. ....	330.
That of London by Maxen Wledig, (the Emperor Maximus)—Id. ib. ....	380.
The expedition of Cynan Meiriadog and his sister Elen to Armorica, where territory was assigned them in reward of their assistance of the Emperor Maximus. vol. i. p. 87. ....	390.
Owain ab Maxen Wledig, son of the Emperor Maximus, elected by public suffrage Sovereign of the Isle of Britain.—Id. pp. 168. 281. ....	400.
The tribute, that had been paid to the Romans since the time of Cæsar, abolished during the reign of Owain. Id. p. 201. ....	Id.
Alban, or the Highlands of Scotland, invaded by the Red Gwyddelians, or Irishmen, who finally settled there.—Id. p. 50. ....	—————
Privileges first granted to the church by the family of Cunedda Wledig, a Cumbrian Prince.—Id. p. 169. .	—————
Improved mode of ploughing introduced by Illtyd Varchog (St. Iltutus); the land, before his time, having been tilled only with a mattock and over-tread plough. vol. ii. p. 98. ....	429.
The Christian Faith propagated amongst the Cymry by Brychan Brycheiniog, son of Aulach, king of Ireland, and who settled in Brecknockshire.—vol. i. p. 169.	—————
Britain invaded by the Saxons.—Id. pp. 49, 50. . . .	447.
The treachery of Gwrtheyrn Gwrthenau (Vortigern) in the aid he afforded the Saxons on their invasion of this island.—Id. pp. 201. 361.—ii. p. 434. ....	Id.
The Plot of the Long Knives on the mountain of Caer Caradawg, (Salisbury-plain), at a meeting between the Britons and Saxons, at which all the British nobility were slain. This plot was occasioned by the treachery of Gwrtheyrn Gwrthenau.—vol. i. p. 171.—ii. p. 147 . .	472.
The inundation of Cantrev y Gwaelod, in Caredigion, the dominion of Gwyddno Garanhir, in the reign of Emrys Wledig, (Ambrosius).—vol. i. p. 361. ....	490.

EVENTS,	<i>Probable Date.</i>
The voyage of Gavran and his companions in search of the Gwerddonau Llion (Green Islands of the Ocean); and their disappearance from the Isle of Britain.—vol. i. p. 124.—ii. p. 338. ....	A. D. 490.
Goronwy Bevyr deserted by his followers in a battle fought at Blaen Cynval in Ardudwy.—vol. ii. p. 338. ....	—————
The Cymry, who had taken refuge in Wales after the arrival of the Saxons, divided into three tribes:—the Gwentians, or inhabitants of Essylwg; the Gwyndydians, or inhabitants of Gwynedd and Powys; and the tribe of Pendaran Dyved, comprising the people of Dyved, Gwyr, and Caredigion.—vol. i. p. 168. ....	—————
The harbouring of foreigners, the liberation of prisoners, and the present of the bald man (probably St. Augustin) declared to be the causes why England was wrested from the Cymry.—vol. ii. p. 386. ....	—————
The Gospel preached in Wales by Dewi (St. David), Padarn, and Teilaw.—vol. i. p. 170. ....	—————
Mynyddawg Eiddin and his followers distinguished for their bravery in the battle of Cattraeth.—vol. ii. p. 337. ....	540.
The Yellow Plague of Rhos, arising from the slaughter of a field of battle, which happened during the reign of Maelgwn Gwynedd.—vol. i. p. 126. ....	—————
Gwrgi and Peredur slain in the battle of Caer Grau, fought with Ida, king of Northumberland, in consequence of the desertion of their followers—vol. ii. p. 338.	584.
The treachery of Aeddan and his followers against Rhydderch the Generous, which assisted the Saxons in their conquest of the Cymry—vol. i. p. 441.—ii. p. 50.	590.
Drywen, the son of Nudd, and his followers signalized by their gallantry in the battle of Arderydd. vol. ii. p. 337. ....	593.
Gwenddolau ab Ceidio slain in the battle of Arderydd, when his followers avenge his death by maintaining the war for six weeks afterwards.—Id. p. 338. ....	Id.
Flight of Cadwallon eil Cadvan and his tribe to Ireland, where they remained seven years.—Id. ib. ....	620
The Principality of Wales divided by Rodri Mawr into three royal domains, viz. Dinevwr, Aberfraw, and Mathraval.—Id. p. 438. ....	843.
The Laws of the Isle of the Britain, as anciently observed by the Cymry, collected, revised, and arranged by Hywel Dda, grandson of Rodri Mawr, and King of all Wales.—Id. p. 146. ....	940.

- Gruffydd ab Llywelyn, prince of Gwynedd, betrayed by Madawg Min, bishop of Bangor.—vol. i. p. 203. . . A.D. 1061.  
 The expedition of Madawg ab Owain Gwynedd, who went to sea with 300 companions, and never returned to the Isle of Britain.—Id. p. 124. . . . . 1172.

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## GENEALOGY OF THE SAINTS\*.

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[Continued from p. 87.]

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### D.

**DEINIOEL**, the son of Dunod ab Pabo Post Prydain ab Arhwys ab Arar ab Coel. His mother was Dwywe, the daughter of Gwallog ab Lleenog, or of Banallig, in some copies. He was the founder of the bishopric of Bangor, in Arvon, of which he is the patron saint. He gave name to Llanddeinioel in Ceredigion.

**DEINIOEL VAB**, so called to distinguish him from the other Deinioel, who was his father; he is also named Deiniolen. Llanddeinioel Vab, or Llanddeiniolen, is dedicated to him.

**DERVEL**, the son of Hywel ab Emyr Llydaw. He generally bore the appellation of Dervel Gadarn, or Dervel the Mighty. He had a brother named Dwywau. Dervel is the patron saint of Llanddervel in Edeyrnion, in Meirion.

**DEWI**, the son of Sant, or Xanthus, ab Cedig ab Ceredig ab Cunedda Wledig ab Edeyrn ab Padarn Beisrudd; and his mother was Non, the daughter of Cynyr, of Caer Gawch, in Mynyw, whose mother was Anna, the daughter of Uthur Bendragon. The English name of Dewi is St. David: and he was anciently stiled Dewi Brevi, or Dewi of the Lowing, and Dewi Ddyvrwr, or Dewi the Waterman. For the preservation of certain privileges, stated in the Law Triads, these invocations are made—" *Dewi Brevi yn gannorthwy!*" May Dewi Brevi be a support! and—" *Gwènog, helpa!*" Gwènog, help †! Dewi was the founder of the bishopric of St. David; a place so highly venerated, that two pilgrimages to it were held as

\* Arch. of Wales, vol. ii. pp. 37—40.

† Id. vol. iii. p. 332. From this ancient authority for the use of the verb *helpa* we may fairly conclude that the English word is of Welsh origin.